

## CHAPTER 38

### CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC CONTROL

This chapter defines the Traffic Control design criteria for use on all roadway construction projects in the District.

#### 38.1 Traffic Control Plan (TCP)

The construction traffic control plan is developed to move traffic safely through a work zone. Elements of a traffic control plan include information about placement and maintenance of traffic control devices, methods and devices for delineation and channelization, construction scheduling, application and removal of pavement markings, roadway construction lighting requirements, traffic regulations, work zone protection and flagging operations. The Designer is required to provide the traffic control drawings as a part of the construction plan. Specifications for Traffic control restrictions, control devices, quantities and costs to implement the plans are part of the Traffic Control Plan.

#### 38.2 Construction Signing

Signing is an essential and integral part of any roadway construction project. The District is using the **MUTCD** and **DDOT Design and Engineering Manual** as a guideline for signing all construction work zones. These manuals provide examples of typical construction signs, methods of erection and signing schemes to handle a variety of construction activities. Construction signs are typically placed on the roadway for a short period of time, therefore avoiding the need for standard durable panel material and support.

#### 38.3 Channelizing Devices

Channelizing devices are designed to warn and alert drivers of potential obstacles created by construction or maintenance operations on or near the traveled way, to protect workers in the work zone and to guide and direct drivers and pedestrians safely past potential obstacles. These devices may be used to provide a smooth and gradual transition in moving traffic from one lane to another, onto a bypass or detour or in reducing the width of the lane. Channelizing devices should always be preceded by a system of warning devices adequate in size, number and placement for the roadway. Their design should be such that they avoid inflicting unnecessary damage to vehicles that may inadvertently strike them.

The taper developed by channelizing devices is one of the most important elements within the system of construction traffic control devices. Tapers may be necessary in both the upstream and downstream directions of traffic depending on the construction activity. Tapers and requirements for layout of tapers are

provided in the **DDOT, Work Zone Traffic Control Standards and Guidelines**,

A variety of channelizing devices are acceptable for use in construction projects. These channelizing devices include:

- Traffic Cones
- Tubular Markers
- Vertical Panels
- Drums
- Barricades
- Concrete Barriers

Traffic cones are used for daytime work only. All other barriers must be usable for nighttime and daytime activities. The designer should design placement of these devices in the construction plans.

### **38.4 Special Devices**

Other special traffic control devices may be used during the construction process to direct traffic flow or convey messages to drivers. These devices include changeable message signs, arrow panels, crash cushions or other similar devices. These devices must be shown where required with appropriate spacing or location, in accordance with **MUTCD, Part VI**, on the plans.

### **38.5 Construction Staging/Phasing**

Most construction projects require the maintenance of traffic throughout the work zone. Traffic control plans must detail the construction stages for all phases of the construction project.

### **38.6 Plan Layout**

The traffic control plans shall be developed at the same scale as the roadway plans. Large scale drawings may be used to show the detour and locations of signs. However, their use shall be approved by the Engineer. The plan must include all existing striping, signage, temporary traffic controls and any signs or striping that should be removed or relocated during construction. All barricades, signs and striping shall be delineated and lengths or distances called out on the plans.

### **38.7 Review and Approval**

Traffic control plans shall be submitted with the construction plan for review and approval. DDOT Traffic Services Administration (TSA) will coordinate the review and approval of the Traffic control Plan (TCP) in the various stages of submission.